

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA**

In the Matter of **Paul J. Merkens**,  
A Member of the Bar of the  
United States District Court  
For the District of North Dakota

Case No. 1:24-mc-003

**ORDER OF TEMPORARY SUSPENSION**

The North Dakota Supreme Court issued an Order entered on September 26, 2024, suspending Paul J. Merkens from the practice of law effective immediately, pending further disciplinary or disability proceedings predicated upon the conduct causing the harm or a showing that his mental health and recover has been restored to the extent necessary to provide competent representation to his clients. Paul J. Merkens is also a member of the Bar of the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota.

IT IS ORDERED, pursuant to D.N.D. Gen. L. R. 1.3(H)(1), that Paul J. Merkens is temporarily suspended from practice before this Court, effective immediately, pending further order of the Court.

Dated this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.

/s/ Peter D. Welte

Peter D. Welte, Chief Judge  
United States District Court